



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
Eastern District of California*

*501 I Street, Suite 10-100
Sacramento, California 95814*

*916/554-2700
Fax 916/554-2900*

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 23, 2004

OLD SACRAMENTO BAR OWNER SENTENCED IN FEDERAL COURT

SACRAMENTO - United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that PHILLIP THOMAS CUNNINGHAM, 26, of North Highlands, California, was sentenced today by United States District Judge David F. Levi to imprisonment for 168 months.

CUNNINGHAM pled guilty on April 8, 2004, to possession of MDMA with the intent to distribute, possession of cocaine with the intent to distribute and two counts of possession of methamphetamine with the intent to distribute, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 841(2)(1).

CUNNINGHAM is the owner and operator of an Old Sacramento night club called the Old Sacramento Lighthouse. The sale of that club is currently pending.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Kymberly Smith, while imposing judgment and sentence Judge Levi stated that CUNNINGHAM had committed "a very serious crime." Levi immediately remanded CUNNINGHAM to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons to begin serving his sentence.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by the United States Drug Enforcement Administration.

A copy of this press release is available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/home>, select Press Releases.